

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OROVILLE FACILITIES
PRELIMINARY ISSUES STATEMENTS
April 19, 2001**

RECREATION

- R1.** Adequacy of existing project recreation facilities, opportunities, and access to accommodate current use and future demand. (Issues addressed: 1, 2, 5-39, 41, 52, 53, 55-62, 64-85, 95, 96, 98, 104, 105)
- R2.** Adequacy of public safety at the Oroville Project recreation facilities. (Issues addressed: 49, 92, 93)
- R3.** *Effects of facilities operations on recreation and socioeconomic opportunities.* (Issues addressed: 44, 50, 51, 54, 63, 109)
- R4.** Adequacy of maintenance and clean-up activities associated with recreation areas. (Issues addressed: 87)
- R5.** Appropriate recreation management structure and funding. (Issues addressed: 3, 4, 110-113, 115)
- R6.** Appropriate management of fisheries and wildlife resources to provide recreational opportunities. (Issues addressed: 42, 43, 45-48, 63, 84, 107-109, 114)

SOCIOECONOMICS

- S1.** Improve economic development through recreation-opportunities at the Oroville Facilities. (Issue addressed: 116)
- S2.** Assess the feasibility of economic development through lower local utility rates. (Issue addressed: 117)

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
1	Existing recreational facilities are not adequate to meet demand	R1	Adequacy of existing project recreation facilities, opportunities, and access to accommodate current use and future demand.
2	Upgrade all facilities and develop more areas for recreation		See R1
3	Look at future and reliable funding sources for recreational development	R5	Appropriate recreation management structure and funding.
4	There is an interest in integrating recreation opportunities provided by the reservoir with those that could occur on adjacent national forest system lands. Uses need to be complimentary with no unmitigated impact on heritage resources and little if any impact on aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat or vegetative productivity. Opportunities could include boat in camping sites, trails from the reservoir to points of scenic or other interest and improvement of existing road access to the reservoir. (Plumas National Forest)		See R5, L1, L4
5	Improve Loafer Creek facilities		See R1
6	Finish Feather River Enhancement Project		See R1
7	Increase camping facilities		See R1
8	At Lime Saddle Memorial Park, build it out and extend it to capacity to which it was originally designed. Up to 250 campsites and boat ramp, swimming beach.		See R1, L1
9	Develop campground at the Afterbay		See R1
10	Develop smaller, primitive style campgrounds (tent) particularly around Enterprise boat ramp		See R1
11	Encourage use of the Forebay RV parking facilities		See R1
12	Convert floating campsites for winter use		See R1
13	The access road from Berry Creek needs improvement and campground facilities are needed lakeside.		See R1
14	Increase parking facilities		See R1
15	Provide more parking at Bidwell Canyon		See R1

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
16	Open spillway road to Potters Ravine for recreation development.		See R1
17	Widen Hwy 162 to Miners Ranch Road		See R1
18	Develop monorail system to Butte County		See R1
19	Upgrade roads to facilities		See R1
20	Improve access from the north		See R1
21	Develop an alternative route to and from Lake Oroville area. From east to west, Miners Ranch Road, converging with Foothill Boulevard, and out Ophir Road to Hwy 70.		See R1
22	Widen Hwy 162 as originally planned and encourage all levels of government to widen Hwy 70 to Oroville.		See R1
23	Build bridge from Nelson Ave Sports Complex to North Forebay and supply gas to site.		See R1
24	If there is going to be paving, consider Burma Road (more cost effective with no conflict of use)		See R1
25	Immediate access by public vehicles at Lakeland Boulevard to the old railroad grade area of the diversion pool with future consideration of improvements in that same area.		See R1
26	Increase marinas		See R1
27	Establish and locate area for bass tournaments on the lake and include stands, parking, water, electricity, vendors, boats, etc.		See R1
28	Develop facilities (including grandstands, toilets, and campgrounds) at the Forebay/Afterbay to support competitive powerboat events		See R1
29	Include a marina and launching of boats along with many recreational activities at the Afterbay, with the entrance to the facilities off Hwy 99		See R1

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
30	Improve or extend roads at Vinton Gulch and Nelson Bar Road (both east and west) to the 800-foot level and increase parking and turn around for car-top launch only. At Nelson Bar east, create a parking area for local residents and install a walking path on the island to the 800-foot level. (LOFEC)		See R1
31	Re-establish a boat launch for river usage by powerboats and canoes with an improved launch ramp on the west side of the River in the Wildlife area. (LOFEC)		See R1
32	Re-establish and open the road to and from the Cherokee Road area to the Bloomer boat-in area and improve the access parking area at Dark Canyon. (LOFEC)		See R1
33	Improve Ponderosa Way Trail to the Las Plumas Power House and consider adding camping and launch ramp to the east side of the North Fork Feather River. (LOFEC)		See R1
34	Develop a management structure and funding for aquatic center programs at the north Forebay to bring boating safety and handling to the public		See R1
35	Expand use of facilities for boating education and water boat training (like Butte Sailing Club offers)		See R1
36	Tournament water skiing location		See R1
37	Open forks of lake for boating activity by changing regulations and gating the log booms for access		See R1
38	Loss of whitewater recreation opportunities and potential mitigation for loss (whitewater park)		See R1
39	Provide houseboat anchor sites		See R1

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
40	Numerous proposals are being made within the Recreational and Socioeconomic Work Group to substantially increase the use of the Afterbay for boating, camping, and other activities. It is important that the environmental impacts of each of these proposals be carefully assessed so that waterfowl and other wildlife on the Afterbay are not adversely affected. (California Waterfowl Association)		See T9
41	Investigate potential for shooting carp activity at Oroville		See R1
42	Long-term cold and warm water fisheries management plan	R6	Effects of fisheries management on recreation opportunities
43	Clean out the silt of all ponds and remove excess brush around ponds with clear paths to each and plant some warm water fish to each. One Mile Pond, plant with rainbows and brook trout and increase camping sites. (LOFEC)		See R6
44	Consider changes in flow rates on recreational fishing	R3	Effects of facilities operations on recreation and socioeconomic opportunities.
45	More emphasis on steelhead and less on salmon		See R6
46	Encourage continuation of bass rearing program (as plants)		See R6
47	Establish new lake records for fishing and establish a record keeper (group or business) (LOFEC)		See R6
48	Establish bank-fishing sites along sloping banks around all campground areas – Parrish Cove, Foreman Creek, Bloomer Boat-in, Goat Ranch Boat-in, Loafer Creek. (LOFEC)		See R6
49	Re-survey rivers and Oroville Lake for depth and mark dangerous areas with buoys. Publish new depth charts and make available to the public. (LOFEC)	R2	Adequacy of public safety at the Oroville Project recreation facilities.

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
50	Lake Oroville releases made for power generation may cause dramatic fluctuations in the lake level. What are the potential impacts of fluctuation zone and surface elevation change on recreation opportunities and on fish and wildlife habitat? (SWRCB)		See R3
51	Lake levels drop too low in the summer for boaters		See R3
52	Has DWR completed or met all its obligations for recreation mitigation (wildlife habitat and fishing) under the existing FERC license? (CDFG)		See R1
53	Create swimming facility (year-round) at Loafer Creek Recreation Area or other appropriate place to replace swimming lost when Bidwell Bar was inundated.		See R1
54	Water temperature below dam is too cold for swimming		See R3
55	North Forebay development and visibility of swimming opportunities – sand beach surround		See R1
56	Site improvements to existing flying site for model airplanes		See R1
57	Improve the Off Hwy Vehicle Recreation Area (SVRA) at the Oroville complex. This would include and not be limited to 4x4 areas for training, safety, but also moto-cross type tracks also.		See R1
58	Larkin Road Shooting Range owned and maintained by the state off Larkin Road south of the Oroville Airport. Enhance parking area, accessibility and drainage.		See R1

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
59	Open the Feather River to gold dredging from Hwy 70 bridge to and through the Wildlife area. Limit to 4" dredge, high banking, sluicing, and panning allowed and establish a building for concession and educational displays. Open from Memorial Day to Labor Day – establish a gold marketer to buy and sell gold and related items to gold recovery in the Feather River. Attraction would be closed during salmon and steelhead runs. (LOFEC)		See R1
60	Build an information center at the main entrance off Larkin Road for the Wildlife Area. (LOFEC)		See R1
61	Create a mining display visible from Hwy (dredge equipment, etc.)		See R1
62	Consider acquiring the Campbell Hills property to continue existing uses such as hang-gliding, kite flying, paragliding, radio-controlled plane flying at area bordering Thermalito Forebay Recreation Area.		See R1, L1
63	What is the recreational value of hunting and fishing on project lands and how can they be enhanced? (DPR)		See R6, R3
64	Increase hiking trails		See R1
65	Build pedestrian bridge adjacent to Hwy. 70 bridge. (Possibly in conjunction with train bridge – multipurpose)		See R1
66	Develop more bike trails that are separate from hiking and equestrian trails		See R1
67	Build a trail starting at the Feather River Hatchery and continuing down river to access the proposed Hwy 70-bike/pedestrian crossing. Create picnic and river access areas on this stretch of the Feather River.		See R1
68	Feather River trails – as proposed by the Bike Pathway Project, links of this access will be created under the Upper Thermalito Bridge and between the Diversion Dam and the old Feather River Railroad.		See R1

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
69	Create comprehensive, integrated trail links around the Project.		See R1
70	Move the security fence off the trail access at the Feather River Hatchery.		See R1
71	Finish building the CA riding and hiking trail from Oroville Trail to Pacific Crest Trail.		See R1
72	Develop an endurance trail around the lake perhaps connecting to Pacific Crest Trail and preserve existing hiking and equestrian trail (in particular, preserve the Dan Beebe Trail as a historical equestrian and hiking trail)		See R1
73	Open diversion dam as trail linkage. Create trail linkage from diversion dam to old railroad grade at the railroad trestle. Open west side of the river from the fish barrier dam to Burma Road as recreation area. Move fence back from riverbank at fish hatchery and develop trail from Table Mountain Bridge past the Hwy 70 bridge on north side of river.		See R1
74	Provide overnight equestrian parking and camping facilities at existing facilities. Improve Lakeland Equestrian Parking Area as follows: expand parking area portable toilets, picnic tables, metal hitching posts, potable water, native trees planted for shade. Consider providing facilities for overnight camping, and maintain all areas as pavement free.		See R1
75	Install directional/rule signs for trails at parking areas and along trails, provide ranger enforcement of the rules.		See R1, L2
76	Provide multi-use trails		See R1
77	Evaluate unpaved status of RR grade multi-use trail		See R1

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
78	Improve Saddle Dam Equestrian Parking area by adding watering trough, picnic tables, metal hitching posts and planting native trees for shade on the perimeter, expand parking area for major events. Maintain all areas as pavement free. This should apply to the Visitor Center Staging Area as well.		See R1
79	Replace water trough that was removed from below the OWID ditch to a location nearby, as well as obtaining equestrian input as to watering locations on all present and future trails.		See R1
80	Add picnic tables and hitching posts at Long Bar Pond, Glen Pond Meadows, and in an open area near the OWID ditch east of the Oroville Dam Highway crossing as well as at all staging areas.		See R1
81	Add picnic tables and benches across from and at the Oroville Dam Spillway along the railroad grade and old construction road, multi-use sections of trail.		See R1
82	Evaluate potential for equestrian amphitheater/rodeo arena/multi-use/boarding facility at Larkin area, Thompson's Flat or a suitable alternative site with accessibility to existing Oroville equestrian trails		See R1
83	Temporarily rough clear/grade some sections of the trail used for the annual LOVER equestrian event, including an alternate route, parallel to the bike route, up the south side of the dam for horses to use during LOVER ride.		See R1
84	Continue Lakeshore habitat improvement.		See R6
85	Upgrade portable restrooms to permanent ones at various locations		See R1

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
86	Water lines at the day use area along the river between the Fish Barrier Dam and the Diversion Dam need to be installed to irrigate plantings. Restrooms and day use area improvements are also needed. Clean up old 'City' park adjacent to the Fish Barrier Dam, just north of the Fish Hatchery. Provide picnic areas and restroom facilities.		See A1
87	Need to establish a debris collection program on regular schedule	R4	Adequacy of maintenance and clean-up activities associated with recreation areas.
88	Remove old Rail Road trestle and other debris from river.		See A1
89	Clean up shoreline, particularly adjacent to camping and public access areas. Use county prisoner-release programs if necessary, to maintain clean shorelines.		See A1
90	Remove concrete and construction debris in Feather River including below the Fish Barrier dam, below the Table Mountain Bridge, below the Hwy 70 bridge.		See A1
91	Dump areas used by DWR need to be removed.		See A1
92	Evaluate fuel loading in areas within the Project area, including land along the Feather River below Oroville Dam through the Long Bar area and land near the Diversion Dam.		See R2, L3
93	Install warning system for water releases.		See R2, L8
94	Provide an emergency boat for CDF		See R2, L8
95	Evaluate existing lake security and need for increased personnel		See L2
96	Create, enhance and preserve Craig Access Park		See R1
97	Restore and improve recreation resource along the river corridor from the dam, downstream to the wildlife area		See R1
98	Camouflage the powerline towers		See A3

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
99	Various recreational and public use facilities were designated as mitigation measures to minimize impacts resulting from the original Oroville Project construction. The Licensee should provide a complete inventory of recreational mitigation obligations required by Articles of the existing FERC License, and should clearly disclose the current status of compliance with those measures. (SWRCB)		See R1
100	There is an interest in reviewing the arrangement to defer recreation management to the California Department of parks and Recreation for the purpose of determining whether to continue, modify or terminate this agreement. The arrangement if continued needs to be formally documented and updated to reflect current management direction. (Plumas National Forest)		See L4
101	Replace landscaping at the Feather River Fish Hatchery and adjacent river areas.		See A1
102	Create work team to remove invasive, non-native plants (List A and B) from State Water Project and DWR areas.		See A1
103	Re-seed face of Oroville Dam and perimeter of reservoir exposed during drawdown.		See A1, A2

FEBRUARY 12 LIST*		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
104	Establish and locate area for bass tournaments on the lake and include stands, parking, water, electricity, vendors, boats, etc.		See R1
105	Develop bank fishing sites, cutaways used as fish habitat		See R1
106	Traditional fishing activities that were impacted by construction of dam		See C?
107	Trophy fishing in North Fork Feather River.		See R6

*Some issues identified during the February 12 Environmental Work Group meeting as fisheries issues have been moved to recreation.

FEBRUARY 12 LIST, CONT.		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
108	Work together with DFG to preserve and continue hunting and fishing opportunities in the after-bay and borrow areas		See R6, R5
109	Consider changes in flow rates on recreational fishing		See R3, R6
110	Efficiently manage recreation in the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area		See R5, L4
111	Manage the Wild and Scenic Zones of the Middle Fork of the Feather River consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	R5	Evaluate management consistency with Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
112	Continue cooperation allowing the California Department of Parks and Recreation to manage the reservoir area including Plumas National Forest lands		See R5, L1, L4
113	Manage the Feather Falls Scenic Area as a Semi Primitive Non Motorized area		See R5
114	Manage flows and/or reservoir storage to maintain or enhance riparian plant communities and habitat for all life stages of fish. Cooperate with local, State, and other Federal water management agencies. Protect riparian areas while providing developed facilities		See R6
115	Elaborate on the management of the feather falls scenic area		See R5

RECREATION/SOCIOECONOMICS MASTER LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
116	Look at what happens to money developed from power generation and potential to put into community. Have an economist evaluate the implications of promises versus delivery. Look at history to understand the perspectives of the community over the last 30 years.	S1	Potential for economic development through recreation-related tourism at the Oroville Facilities.
117	Develop way to bring power and water directly from the project to the City of Oroville to stimulate economic development.	S2	Feasibility of utilizing project water and power for local economic development.